

Appl. No. 09/768,953
Amdt. Dated August 23, 2004
Reply to Office action of May 21, 2004
Attorney Docket No. P12877-US1
EUS/J/P/04-2268

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Amendments

The Applicant has added claims 41-72; claims 1-38 have been canceled and claims 39-40 were previously canceled. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, Claims 41-72 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Examiner Objections – Specification

The specification was objected to because of several informalities. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for his careful review of the specification. In response, the Applicant has modified the specification as suggested by the Examiner. The Examiner's consideration of the amendments to the specification is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-19 and 21-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter as the invention. Claims 1-38 have been canceled rendering the rejection of these claims moot.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 1-2, 6, 8 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parnafes et al. (US 6,721,272 hereinafter Parnafes).

Claims 15-21, 28, 30 and 32-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parnafes in view of Sen, et al. (US 6,708,034 hereinafter Sen).

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parnafes in view of Roy (US 6,732,177 hereinafter Roy).

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Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parnafes in view of Turunen et al. (US 6,487,595 hereinafter Turunen).

Claim 7 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parnafes in view of Mizuta et al. (US 6,584,110 hereinafter Mizuta).

Claim 10 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parnafes in view of Yannato et al. (US 6,094,431 hereinafter Yannato).

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parnafes and Turunen in view of Mizuta.

Claims 11 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parnafes and Yamato in view of Mizuta.

Claims 22 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parnafes and Sen in view of Yamato.

Claim 26 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parnafes and Sen in view of Turunen.

Claims 29 and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parnafes and Sen in view of Mizuta.

Claims 23 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parnafes, Sen and Yamato in view of Mizuta.

Claims 27 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parnafes, Sen and Turunen in view of Mizuta.

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The Applicant respectfully traverses the 103(a) rejection of the claims cited above. In order to expedite allowance of this application, the Applicant has canceled claims 1-40 without prejudice. Therefore, this rejection with respect to these claims is deemed to be moot. The Examiner's consideration of the new claims 41-72 is respectfully requested.

Prior Art Not Relied Upon

In paragraph 69 on page 22 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that the prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the Applicant's disclosure.

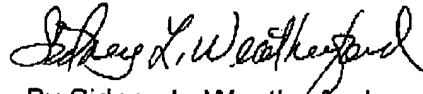
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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